

Summary of the Minutes

March 17, 2014 Meeting

City of Binghamton Shade Tree Commission

PHCD Conference Room, 4th Floor, City Hall

Commissioners Present: Dick Andrus (Chair), Joshua DeMarree, Julian Shepherd, Carolyn Wilczinski, Lou Sebesta, Beverly Rainforth

Commissioners Absent: none

Staff Liaison: Melissa Enoch

Guests: Artem Treyger (NYSEG), Bill Barber (Parks Dept), Paul Palmer (Parks Dept)

Selection of scribe: Beverly Rainforth

Approval of minutes of previous meeting. Approved

Next meeting date and time: April 21, 2014 7:00 PM

1. City Site Plans. None submitted.

2. Arbor Day 2014. The city has some trees still available to plant. Bill Barber will speak to Steve Contento about planting Zelcovas at the zoo. Small trees will be planted under utility lines in front of vacant properties. Another area to consider for the future is near Arena Street and Pierce Creak (near Ben Franklin School).

3. Complete Streets grant from CDBG. Some funds will be used for trees to be planted in north side neighborhoods. The city has identified properties and will partner with STC to choose trees.

4. Dead trees in cloverleaf near Arena. DOT is looking at this area, which is in the proposed he flood zone. Dick will contact DOT about these trees.

5. Citizen Pruner Program. Josh held a meeting on Sunday March; Trees lists have been distributed to 8 people, or soon will be. In the fall, press releases

6. Student Member. Carolyn will submit a student's resume to Melissa by the end of the week.

7. NYSEG. Artem distributed the Vegetation Management Map for Fall 2014; pruning will start after leaves have fallen. NYSEG will confer with Gary Homes and/or a city arborist about trees that may need to be removed.

8. Tree Guards. Several newly planted trees have been damaged by pedestrians. Melissa will look into tree guards, with preference for recycled plastic (for environmental benefits, and to avoid theft of metal for salvage).